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breaking the habit of saying "eyether."

Instead of "either."

The answer which smokers who have

canvassed the subject would make to

the reformers—who are probably not

smokers themselves—is that they smoke

because after a meal tobacco confers a

feeling of comfort and seems to promote

that mental and physical calm which

algebra digestion; that they smoke because

they consider that the noxious effects of

tobacco are not of sufficient menace to

compensate for the discomfort of break-

ing the habit and for the deprivation of

subsequent abstinence.

AT THE CENTURY'S DAWN.

As participants in that justified spirit

of confident expectation of great and

good things to come into being in the

course of the new century now dawning,

an expectation which is world-wide

in extent, the people of St. Louis may

well congratulate themselves upon a

prospect of peculiar and exceptional

brightness and of especial promise.

In all the history of St. Louis, now the

fourth city in the Union and one of the

oldest of American cities outside of the

original Thirteen Colonies, there has not

been known a New Year's dawn so rich

in significance of future greatness and

prosperity as that which is now to usher

in the Twentieth Century. It seems also

a fact of the pleasantest import that

much of this significance is due to the

proposed American celebration of the

centennial anniversary of what was in

many respects the most advantageous

American achievement in the early days

of the century now closing, the purchase

from France by President Jefferson in

1803 of the Louisiana Territory, which

opened up a continent to the new spirit

personified by the American Government

and people.

St. Louis, as the metropolis of the

magnificent territory thus gained, will

be the scene of the World's Fair, by

means of which this auspicious anni-

versary is to be celebrated. From now

until this great international exposition

of the new century shall have become a

matter of historic record, the World's

Fair City will of necessity occupy a

most prominent place in the world's

eyes. This fact in itself is of infinite

promise to St. Louis, but there is more

of good in the vast undertaking than is

thus found in the certainty of the uni-

versal attention which must inevitably

be focused on St. Louis between now

and 1903. The World's Fair necessitates

a new and modernized St. Louis, a city

that must needs not suffer by compar-

ison with the world's greatest cities, its

physical condition brought up to the

highest standard, its government en-

lightened and progressive.

A reasonable guarantee that such con-

ditions are certain to be attained is

found in the movement now under way

for the betterment of St. Louis as a ne-

cessity created by the World's Fair un-

derstanding and willingly accepted by pub-

lic-spirited citizens. This movement has

resulted in the organization of the Com-

mission for the Public Welfare, a body

of representative men who stand

pledged to lend their best endeavor to

the solution of the problem of devising

ways and means for the physical im-

provement of St. Louis. The spirit anim-

ating the Commission for the Public

Welfare is of the highest order of civic

devotion and faithfulness. The members

of that notable organization will not

spare themselves in their service to the

community.

For the best interests of St. Louis, for

its fullest glory as the World's Fair City

of the Twentieth Century, for the cer-

tainly materialization of the vast good now

possible to the city and all its people, it

is incumbent upon every citizen to give

his heartiest support to the World's Fair

movement and to the Commission for

the Public Welfare, an essential adjunct

of the World's Fair movement. No better

New Year's resolution is possible in civic

life than a resolution to adequately per-

form this imperative duty. The promise

of the New Century and the New Year

is bright indeed for St. Louis. It is for

the people of St. Louis to develop this

that since 1840 the national wealth has

increased five times as fast as the popu-

lation, and that serious evils have been

created in the production of this wealth.

Mr. Hewitt pleaded with the multitu-

ludes of New York to face in the

proper spirit the responsibilities accom-

panying their millions. Nor did he hesi-

tate to tell them that they have thus far

failed to do this; that there is not now

given to the poor, in proportion to the

wealth of great New York families, the

half that was given by these same fam-

ilies a generation ago.

"Can any one be content with such

conditions?" Mr. Hewitt asks. "Good

God! Is this the end to which we have

been working all these centuries? Is

this the result of all our industrial de-

velopment, and must our prosperity as

a nation be purchased at such a stagger-

ing price? Who shall say that with our

wonderful increase in wealth there are

not means in abundance to remove all

the misery and all the evil conditions

among the humble classes which at

present are stains and sores upon our

body politic?"

It is just as well that these truths of

growing evils in this country should be

plainly stated when there is reason to

hope that good may follow. American

development is being attained too large-

ly along lines that tend to make the rich

richer and the poor poorer. It is in or-

der for the profligate class to assume a

freer attitude toward the unprofit-

ing. It is even more in order for those

in power in the Government to realize

that conditions should be made easier

for the masses. As they exist at present

these conditions are unAmerican. The

poor man must receive a better chance

in the poor man's country.

ALLISON'S HELP.

Senator Allison's assurance that he

will be able to prevent the carrying out

of Mark Hanna's scheme to tack the

ship-subsidy grab as a rider on the

sundry civil appropriation bill will be

received with grateful appreciation by

the people of this country.

It is the people who will suffer by the

passage of the Hanna-Payne-Frye

Standard Oil ship-subsidy bill. It is the

Hanna-Payne-Frye-Standard Oil syn-

dicate that will profit. The people will

be burdened with a tax of nearly \$200,-

000,000, in return for which they will

receive no benefit. The subsidy will go

to further enrich a syndicate of influen-

tial multimillionaires already enriched at

the expense of the people.

It is characteristic of Mark Hanna

that he should have determined to at-